

## 1318.3 - Qld Stats, Jun 2008

Previous ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 23/06/2008

# Summary

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## What's new at ABS ...

### WHAT'S NEW AT ABS ...

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## HELP FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT ON THE ABS WEBSITE

Local Government users of the ABS website can now access information designed to help find data and other resources of interest to Local Government.

Called **Services We Provide to Local Government**, these new information pages include:

- How to find data for Local Government Areas.
- How to keep informed about ABS releases and developments.
- Information about resources and services available to help you use data.

The pages include ABS releases that contain data at Local Government Area level, and information about ABS training available to Local Government clients.

Find these new pages by clicking on this link [Services We Provide to Local Government](#), or go to the ABS website <[www.abs.gov.au](http://www.abs.gov.au)> and on the Home Page, click on '[Services We Provide](#)', then follow the link to 'Local Government'.

**Services We Provide to Local Government** is the latest in a series of help pages aimed at assisting ABS clients. Other **Services We Provide** pages on the ABS website include: **State/Territory Government, Small Business, Universities and Libraries**.

In addition, the latest issue of **Local Government and ABS** (cat. no. 1376.0) has now been released.

**Local Government and ABS** is a quarterly newsletter published by the ABS to help the local government sector use statistics to assist with planning and other community servicing decisions. You can find the full text of this release at [Local Government and ABS - Issue 21](#).

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## INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT MANAGER

Kelleigh Ryan, a descendant of the Kabi Kabi people from South-East Queensland and the Sunshine Coast area, has recently been appointed as the Indigenous Engagement Manager (IEM) for Queensland. Each state and territory office of the ABS (except ACT) has an IEM position.

### What is the role of the IEM?

The role of an IEM is to enhance ABS's engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and organisations. Some of the responsibilities of an IEM include:

- Build and maintain networks with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and organisations.
- Coordinate ABS communication with communities in their state or territory.
- Return ABS information in appropriate formats to Indigenous communities and organisations to raise statistical awareness.
- Train Indigenous communities and organisations in the use of statistics for their own purposes.
- Advise ABS Population Survey Operations and Census staff in enumeration procedures.

## What does an IEM do?

IEMs undertake a variety of activities to develop and maintain collaborative partnerships with Indigenous communities, advise on appropriate materials to raise statistical awareness and provide support to Indigenous communities and organisations on the use of and access to statistical information.

- Actively promote the ABS through regional networks and community events, for example
  - Over 300 community visits have been conducted and contact has been made with over 400 government and non-government agencies.
  - Over 100 training and information sessions have been provided to communities and organisations.
- Raise awareness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the ABS, for example, the facilitation of cultural awareness training for ABS staff.
- Organise events for the upcoming national Aboriginal and Islander Day of Celebration (NAIDOC).
- Seek feedback from Indigenous communities and organisations on their current use of ABS statistics.
- Facilitate support for the field operations in relation to the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey 2008.

The ABS is currently seeking expressions of interest for pilot testing our new website training for Indigenous communities with computer access as well as other training packages. If you would like to be involved or require any assistance with ABS Indigenous data please feel free to call our National Centre for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Statistics on 1800 633 216 or email [ncatsis@abs.gov.au](mailto:ncatsis@abs.gov.au).

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## INDIGENOUS STATISTICS

Two important Indigenous statistical products were recently released by the ABS.

The Health and Welfare of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, 2008 (cat. no. 4704.0)

This publication is the sixth in the series of reports on the health and welfare of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. By drawing on recent data available from a variety of sources, it aims to provide a comprehensive picture of the health and welfare of Australia's Indigenous population. It covers a range of topics regarded as important for

improving the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Maps and Census Profiles, Australian Indigenous Geographical Classification, 2006 (cat. no. 4706.0.30.001)

This is a CD-ROM product compiling ABS Indigenous products, including maps, publications, Indigenous and Remoteness profiles from the 2006 Census, fact sheets and data quality statements. This collection of Indigenous and related statistical information brings together ABS products freely available on [www.abs.gov.au](http://www.abs.gov.au) into a format that is portable across remote Australia, and is a comprehensive resource of Indigenous data.

This product is designed for:

- clients who have limited access to the ABS website, particularly remote communities that have difficulty accessing online products
- clients who require access to the Census 2006 Indigenous Profile data in bulk.

Interested readers are also invited to visit the Indigenous Statistics theme page on the ABS website for links to other related Indigenous information.

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## **REGIONAL STATISTICS NEWSLETTER**

The third issue of [What's New in Regional Statistics](#) (cat. no. 1386.0) was released on 4 June 2008. This newsletter is biannual and contains regional and small area statistics. It includes topical articles and reviews of relevant ABS publications. 'What's New in Regional Statistics' highlights developments in statistics relevant to regions, including metropolitan, urban, non-urban and rural areas, and other information of likely interest to researchers, policy makers and other users of small area data.

Interested readers are also invited to visit the [Regional Statistics theme page](#) on the ABS website for links to other related information.

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## **EDUCATION AND TRAINING MATTERS**

Education and Training Matters (cat. no. 4211.0) is a biannual publication of the National Centre for Education and Training Statistics (NCETS). It aims to keep readers informed of developments in education and training statistics and of current projects being undertaken by NCETS.

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## **NEW RELEASES ON THE EDUCATION THEME PAGE**

### **Classroom datasets**

A new selection of datasets suitable for use in classrooms has recently been released on the ABS website.

These datasets have been drawn from a variety of ABS publications and are divided into Economic Datasets (including CPI, labour force, wages, etc.) and Social Datasets (including population, migration, water use, crime, etc.). They have been created specifically to assist students use and understand ABS data and to explore different social and economic issues.

You can access the datasets through the links provided above or from the Education pages. (From the ABS home page, choose the Education link on the header navigator bar. You can access the Datasets via the 'For Teachers' or the 'For Students' pages.) While you're there, check out the other resources that are available for teachers and students - from classroom activities to great learning games.

## **CensusAtSchool**

CensusAtSchool is a student-centered online data collection and analysis project run by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. Thousands of students have submitted their responses to the online questionnaire, forming a large nation-wide database of rich, raw data that can be accessed FREE from the ABS website. CensusAtSchool engages students in their learning and combines ICT skills with interdisciplinary learning.

The CensusAtSchool questionnaire phase will be closing on July 4. This is the last chance for students to submit their responses and be part of the 2008 CensusAtSchool database. The student response data will be available from July 7.

The CensusAtSchools newsletter provides users of CensusAtSchool with up-to-date support material, including teacher tips, ready-to-use classroom activities, news updates and feedback from the CensusAtSchool community.

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## **CHANGES TO THE ABS SURVEY PROGRAM**

The ABS is facing a tight budget situation in 2008-09, which has led to a range of reductions in the ABS work program. The Australian Statistician, Brian Pink, has outlined a number of strategies to address the situation in the document [Changes to the ABS survey program for 2008-09](#) on the ABS Website. Use the link to see what the implications are for the affected surveys or programs and how to get further information.

### **Changes to the Labour Force Survey**

Detailed information on how the changes will impact on the Labour Force Survey can be accessed from the document above or by going directly to [Technical Note](#) in Labour Force, Australia, Jun 2008 (cat. no. 6202.0).

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## **ABS RELEASE INFORMATION**

Beginning in January 2008, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) website provides the expected release details for all statistical products due for publication in the coming six months.

The web page 'Releases Scheduled for the Next Six Months' is revised on the ABS website at the beginning of each month. This six-month forecasting is intended to keep clients informed about products and when they will become available.

All ABS Core Statistical and Other Statistical publications that usually have a catalogue number will be detailed as well as prominent non-statistical publications such as the ABS Annual Report and Australian Statistics Advisory Council Annual Report.

Access 'Releases Scheduled for the Next Six Months' from the ABS Home page via 'Future Releases' or use [this link](#).

Information on all ABS product releases can also be accessed from [ABS Release Advice](#). This web page also provides links to **Previous Releases**, **Releases Scheduled for the Next Six Months** and **Main Economic Indicator Releases**.

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## QUEENSLAND THEME PAGE

[This page](#) provides access to Queensland statistical information including statistical releases and links to non-ABS sources. A wide range of economic and social statistics is covered.

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## Population



### POPULATION

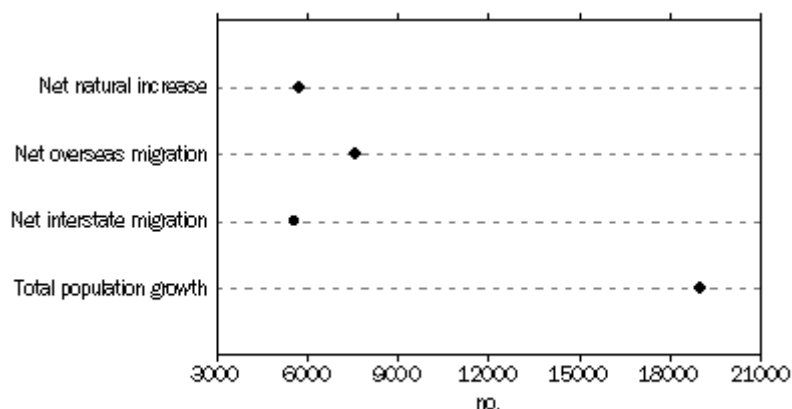
Population Change, Queensland  
Regional Population Growth

### POPULATION CHANGE, QUEENSLAND

The preliminary estimated resident population (ERP) for Queensland was 4,201,100 at 30 September 2007, an increase of 90,600 (2.2%) since 30 September 2006. Queensland accounted for 20% of the Australian population at 30 September 2007.

Between the June 2007 quarter and the September 2007 quarter, 30% (5,800 persons) of the total population increase of 19,000 persons was due to net natural increase (excess of births over deaths), 40% (7,600 persons) was attributable to net overseas migration and 29% (5,600 persons) to net interstate migration.

**Population Change from Previous Quarter - September 2007 quarter**



Source: Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0).

Further information about Queensland's population can be accessed from [Australian Demographic Statistics](#) (cat. no. 3101.0) or ring the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

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## REGIONAL POPULATION GROWTH

At 30 June 2007, the Queensland population was estimated to be 4,182,100 persons. The south east corner comprising Brisbane, Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast and West Moreton Statistical Divisions accounted for two-thirds (66%) of the state's population.

### Regional Population<sup>(a)</sup>, by Statistical Division: at 30 June - 2001, 2006 and 2007

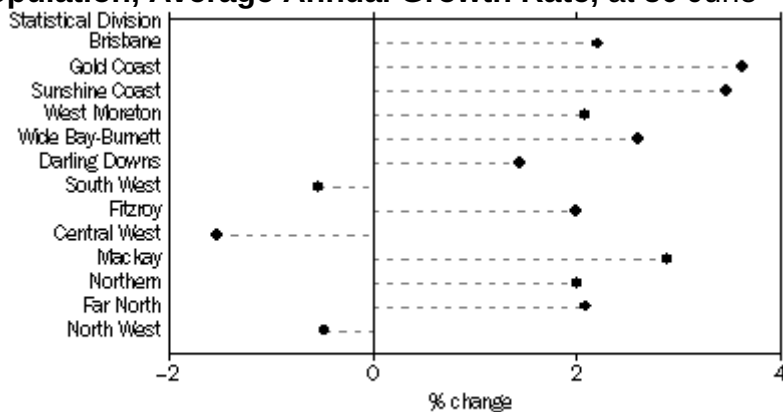
	2001 '000	2006 '000	2007 '000
Statistical division			
Brisbane	1 629.1	1 820.4	1 857.6
Gold Coast	432.6	518.1	535.5
Sunshine Coast	247.2	295.1	303.1
West Moreton	65.7	72.7	74.3
Wide Bay-Burnett	236.5	269.3	275.7
Darling Downs	210.4	227.1	229.3
South West	27.0	26.4	26.2
Fitzroy	181.7	200.6	204.5
Central West	12.5	11.6	11.4
Mackay	137.5	159.9	163.1
Northern	190.3	209.6	214.3
Far North	224.2	247.6	253.7
North West	34.3	33.2	33.3
<b>Queensland</b>	<b>3 628.9</b>	<b>4 091.5</b>	<b>4 182.1</b>

(a) Estimates as at 30 June are final for 2001, preliminary rebased for 2006 on results of the Census of Population and Housing, 2006, and preliminary for 2007. For all years, statistical divisions are based on the Australian Standard Geographical Classification 2007 Edition.

Source: Regional Population Growth, Australia (cat. no. 3218.0).

The fastest growing statistical divisions over the six years between 30 June 2001 and 30 June 2007 were Gold Coast with an average annual growth rate of 3.6%, Sunshine Coast (3.5%) and Mackay (2.9%). Three statistical divisions recorded negative average annual growth during the same period: North West (-0.5%), South West (-0.5%) and Central West (-1.5%).

## Regional Population, Average Annual Growth Rate, at 30 June - 2001 to 2007



Source: *Regional Population Growth, Australia* (cat. no. 3218.0).

Note: On 24 July 2007, the ABS released preliminary rebased estimates of regional population for June 2006, based on the results of the 2006 Census of Population and Housing. On 1 October 2007, additional data was released with this product. At that time, spreadsheets and a data cube containing estimates for all years from June 1996 to June 2006 became available.

For more information on Queensland's regional population distribution, please refer to [Regional Population Growth, Australia](#) (cat. no. 3218.0) or ring the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released annually.

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## Labour Force



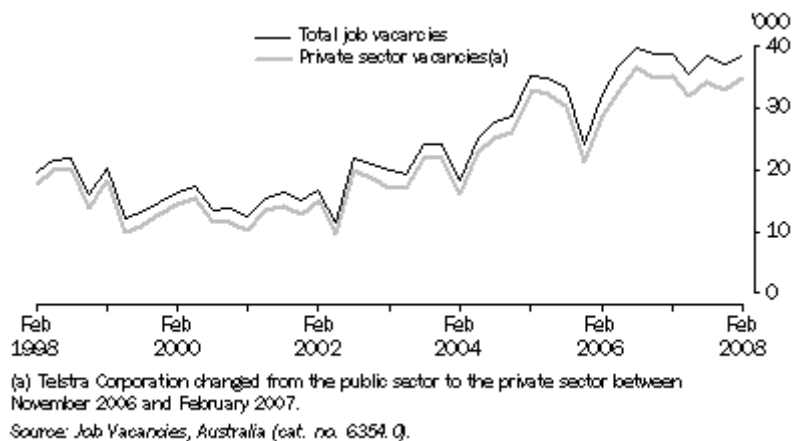
### LABOUR FORCE

[Job Vacancies](#)  
[Employed Persons](#)  
[Unemployment](#)  
[Participation rate](#)  
[Employed Persons by Industry](#)

### JOB VACANCIES

In original terms, Queensland's total number of job vacancies increased to 38,600 in February 2008 from 37,300 in November 2007. The February 2008 vacancies were 0.3% lower than in February 2007. Public sector vacancies accounted for one in ten (9.6%) of total job vacancies in February 2008.

**Job Vacancies, Original - Queensland**

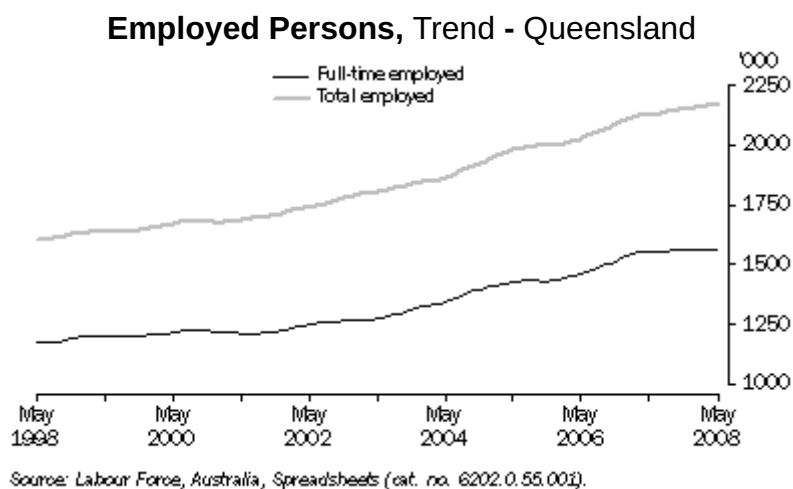


Further information on this topic can be accessed at [Job Vacancies, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6354.0). This publication is released quarterly.

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## EMPLOYED PERSONS

In May 2008, total employment in Queensland in trend terms rose to 2,176,400 persons. Full-time employed persons (1,564,700) accounted for 72% of total employed persons. Males accounted for 65% of full-time employed persons and 54% of total employed persons.

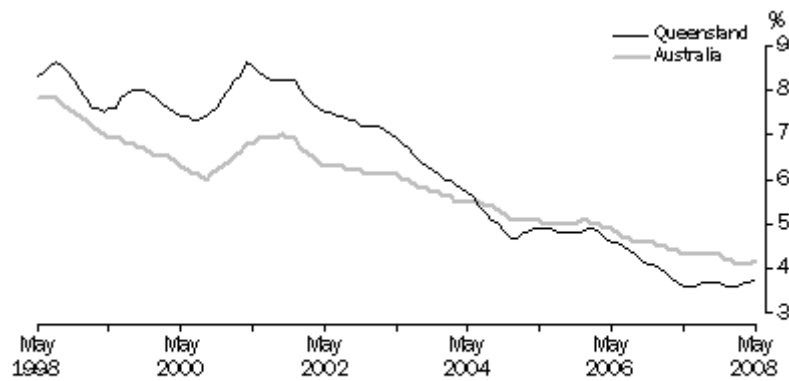


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## UNEMPLOYMENT

The trend estimate of the number of unemployed persons in Queensland for May 2008 was 85,000 persons. This equates to an unemployment rate of 3.8%. Since July 2004, in trend estimate terms, the Queensland unemployment rate has been lower than the national unemployment rate.

### Unemployment Rate(a), Trend

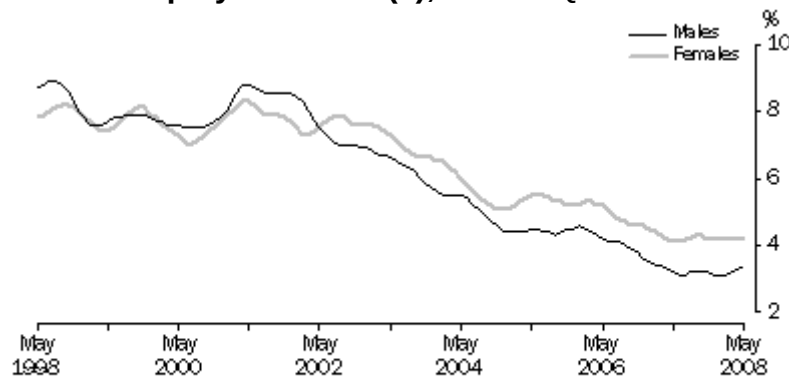


(a) Series break at April 2001.

Source: Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets (cat. no. 6202.0.55.001).

Females accounted for 51% of the number of unemployed persons in Queensland in May 2008 and had an unemployment rate of 4.2%. The corresponding male unemployment rate was 3.4%. Females have had higher rates of unemployment than their male counterparts since May 2002.

### Unemployment Rate(a), Trend - Queensland



(a) Series break at April 2001.

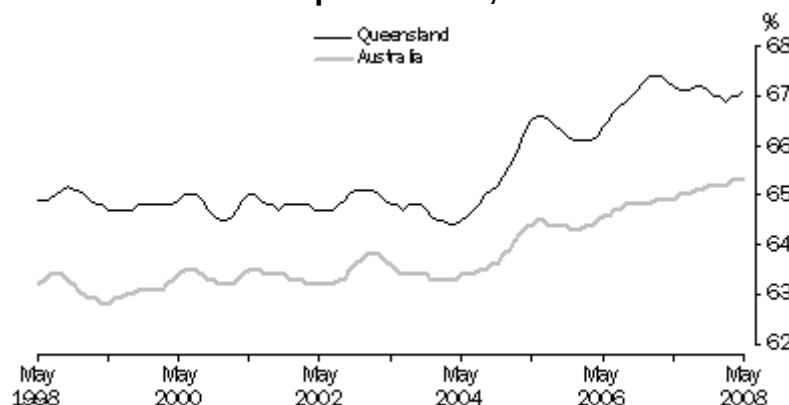
Source: Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets (cat. no. 6202.0.55.001).

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## PARTICIPATION RATE

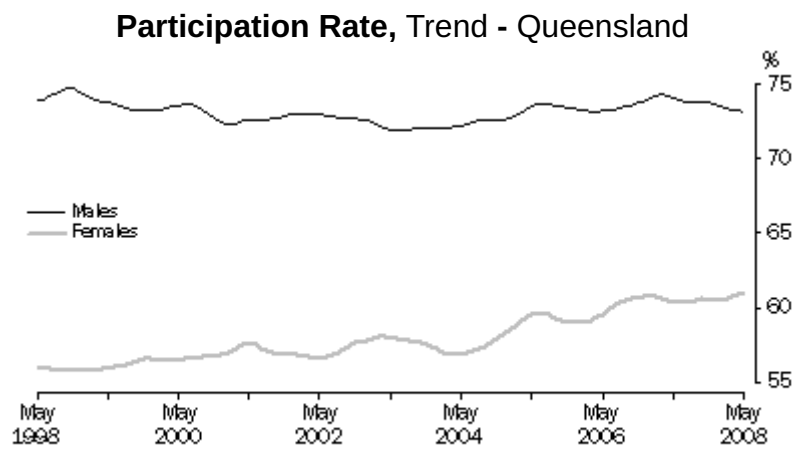
The trend estimate of the participation rate for Queensland in May 2008 was 67.1%. This rate is 3.4% higher than May 1998. Queensland has consistently recorded higher participation rates than the national average.

### Participation Rate, Trend



Source: Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets, (cat. no. 6202.0.55.001).

For Queensland, the trend participation rate for females has been over 60% since July 2006, and was 61.0% in May 2008. This is an 9.0% increase on the female participation rate recorded in May 1998. The male participation rate in May 2008 was 73.2%, a decrease of -1.0% on the rate recorded for May 1998.



Source: Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets (cat. no. 6202.0.55.001).

Further information on these topics can be accessed at [Labour Force, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6202.0) and [Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets](#) (cat. no. 6202.0.55.001) or ring the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. These publications are released monthly.

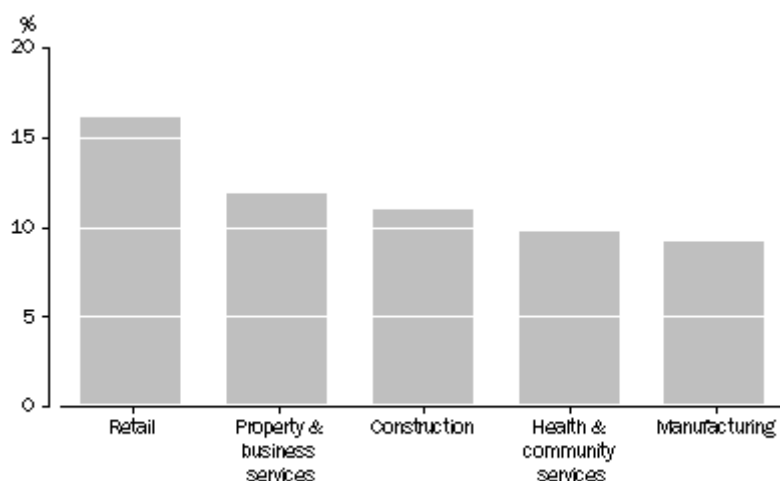
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## EMPLOYED PERSONS BY INDUSTRY

There were 2,151,600 employed persons in Queensland in February 2008. The industries with the most number of employed persons were Retail trade (346,600), Property and business services (255,600) and Construction (237,500). Those industries employing the least number of persons included Electricity, gas and water (20,00), Communication services (28,900) and Mining (37,200).

The five major industries with the most number of employed persons accounted for over half (58%) of Queensland's employed.

**Employed Persons by Industry, Original - Percentage of total employed: Queensland - February 2008**



Source: Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery, Quarterly (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003).

In the year February 2007 to February 2008, the greatest increase of employed persons occurred in Electricity, Gas and Water Supply (12%). In the same period, Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing had the greatest decrease in employed persons with a reduction of 20%.

**Note:** Employed persons by industry has been reported in original terms and cannot be directly compared to the trend estimates reported for Labour Force.

For more detailed information on this topic, please refer to [Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly](#) (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003) or ring the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

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## Prices



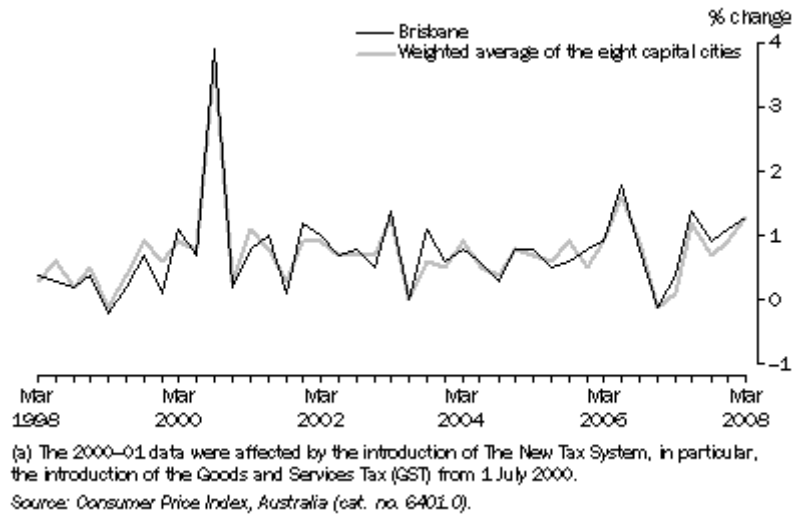
### PRICES

#### CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The all groups consumer price index (CPI) for Brisbane increased by 4.8% in the 12 months to March quarter 2008, compared to a 4.2% rise in the weighted average of the eight capital cities. The higher result in Brisbane was largely due to stronger than average rises in housing, with less significant contributions from financial and insurance services and transportation.

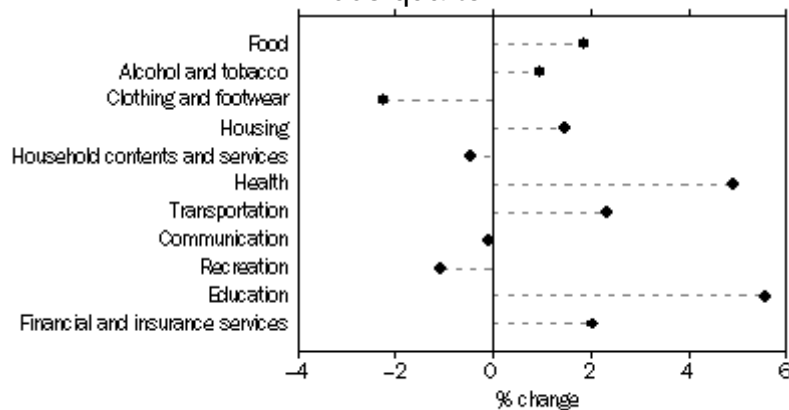
Brisbane's CPI rose by 1.3% between the December quarter 2007 and the March quarter 2008, the same increase as for the weighted average of the eight capital cities. Automotive fuel was the main contributor to this increase with housing costs (both purchase and rents) and food prices also contributing strongly to the increase.

**Consumer Price Index - All Groups, Original - Percentage change from previous quarter(a)**



In the March 2008 quarter, the categories with the largest percentage increases in Brisbane were Education (5.6%), Health (4.9%) and Transport (2.3%). Clothing and footwear (-2.2%) and Recreation (-1.1%) experienced the strongest falls in prices between the December quarter 2007 and the March quarter 2008.

#### CPI Movement, Brisbane, Original - Percentage change from previous quarter: March 2008 quarter



For more detailed information on the consumer price index, please refer to [Consumer Price Index, Australia](#) (cat no. 6401.0) or ring the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

## Production

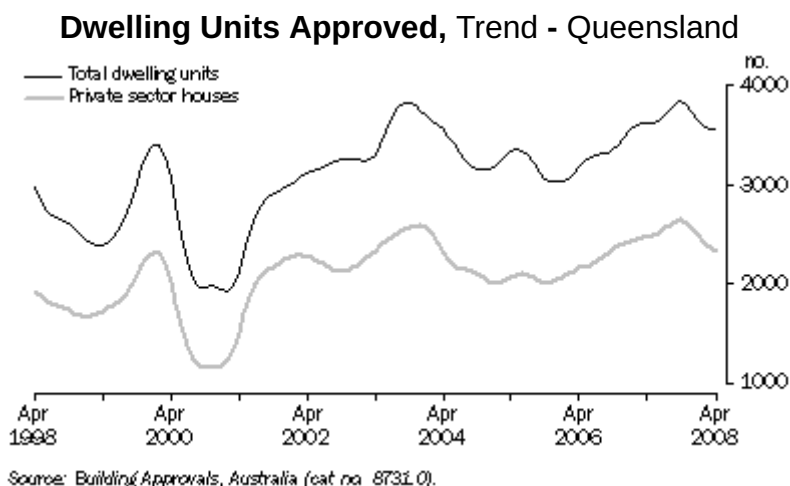


### PRODUCTION

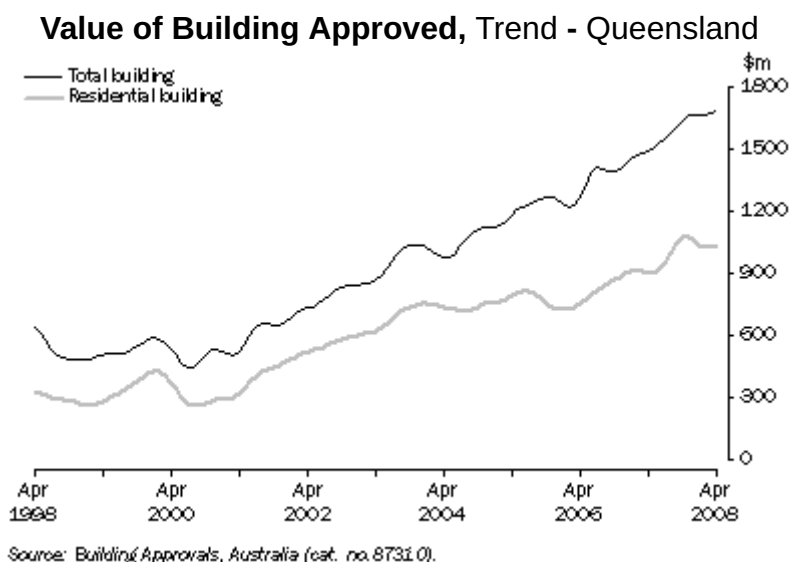
Building Approvals  
Building Activity  
Engineering Construction

## BUILDING APPROVALS

In April 2008, the total number of dwelling units approved in Queensland in trend terms was 3,564. The trend estimate for the total number of dwelling units approved for April 2008 showed total approvals decreased by -0.1% from the previous month, the sixth consecutive monthly decrease after a consistent upward trend of almost two years. The trend estimate for private sector houses was 2,326 approvals, which represents 65% of total dwelling units approved.



In April 2008, the total value of building approvals in trend terms was \$1,685.3 million, a slight (0.7%) increase from the previous month and a 13% increase from April 2007. Residential buildings accounted for 61% of the total value of buildings.



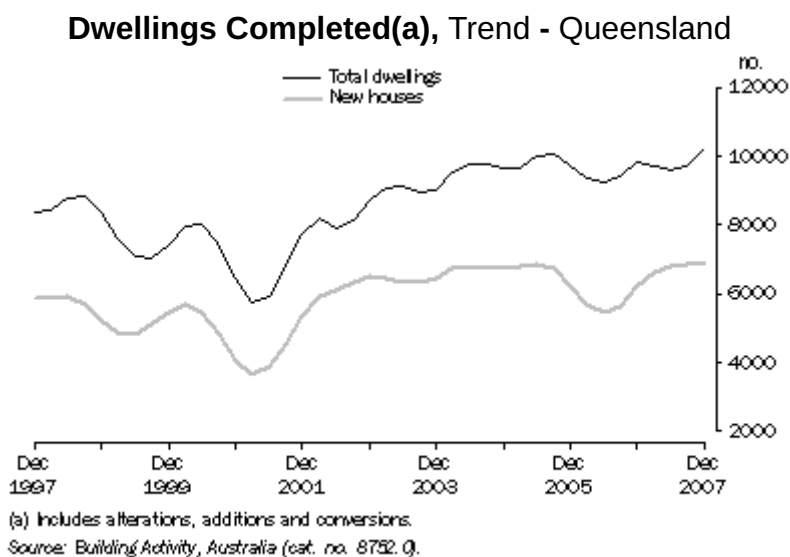
For more information on this topic, please refer to [Building Approvals, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8731.0) or ring the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released monthly.

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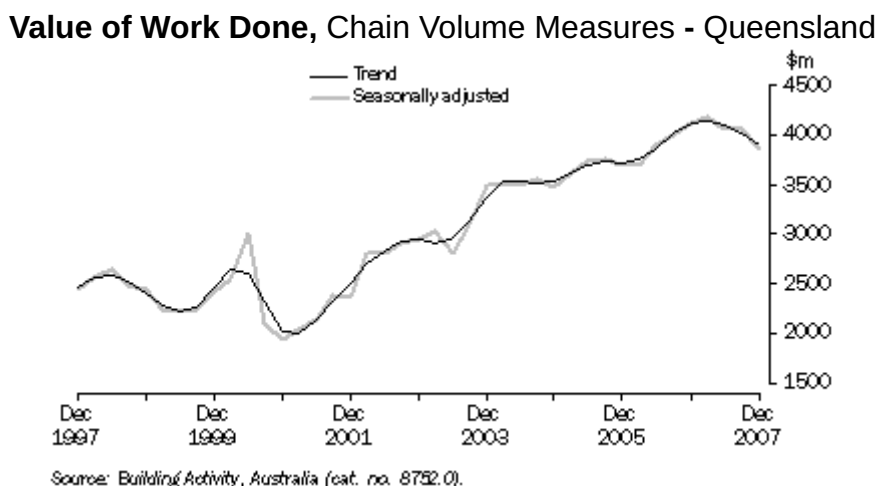
## BUILDING ACTIVITY

In the December 2007 quarter, the total number of dwellings completed in trend terms in

Queensland was 10,283. This is an increase of 5.4% from the September 2007 quarter. There were 6,966 new houses completed during the December 2007 quarter which represents 68% of the total number of dwelling units completed.



In the December 2007 quarter, the trend estimate of the value of total building work done was \$3,910.1 million, a -5.0% decrease from December 2006 quarter.



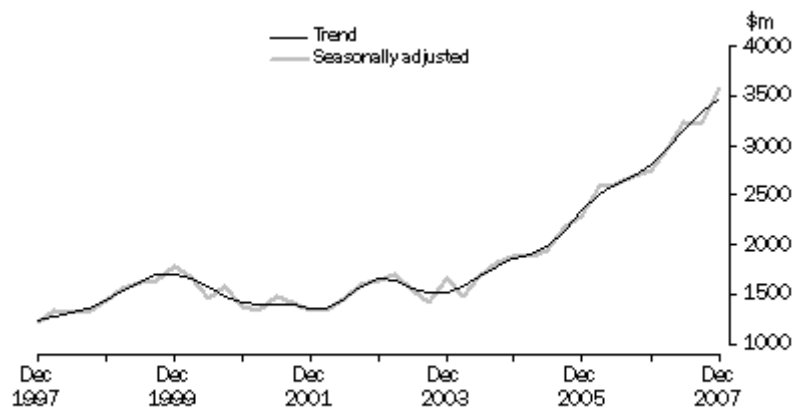
For more information on this topic, please refer to [Building Activity, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8752.0) or ring the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

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## ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION

Between the September 2007 and December 2007 quarters, the Queensland chain volume trend estimate of the value of engineering construction increased by 4.4% to \$3,481.3 million. This continues the period of strong growth since December 2003 quarter.

### Engineering Construction Work Done, Chain Volume Measures



Source: Engineering Construction Activity, Australia (cat. no. 8762.0).

For further information on this topic, access [Engineering Construction Activity, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8762.0) or ring the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

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## Housing Finance

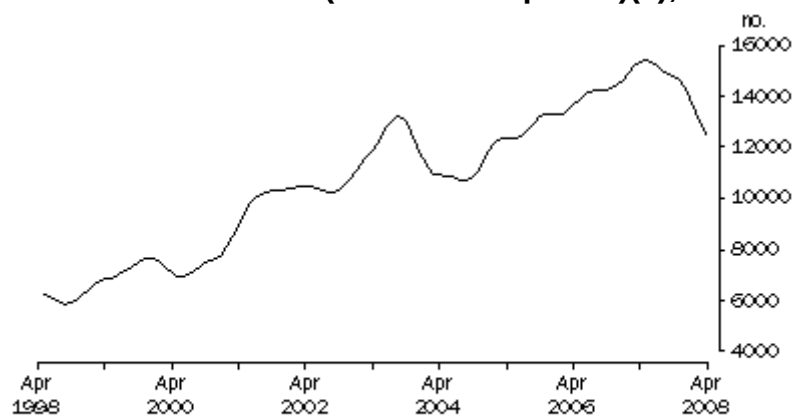


### HOUSING FINANCE

#### HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS

The number of owner occupied housing commitments in trend estimate terms decreased by -19% to 12,437 in April 2008 when compared with April 2007. There was also a small decrease (-3.7%) between March 2008 and April 2008, the eleventh consecutive monthly decrease.

#### Housing Finance Commitments (Owner Occupation)(a), Trend - Queensland



(a) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.

Source: Housing Finance, Australia (cat. no. 5609.0).

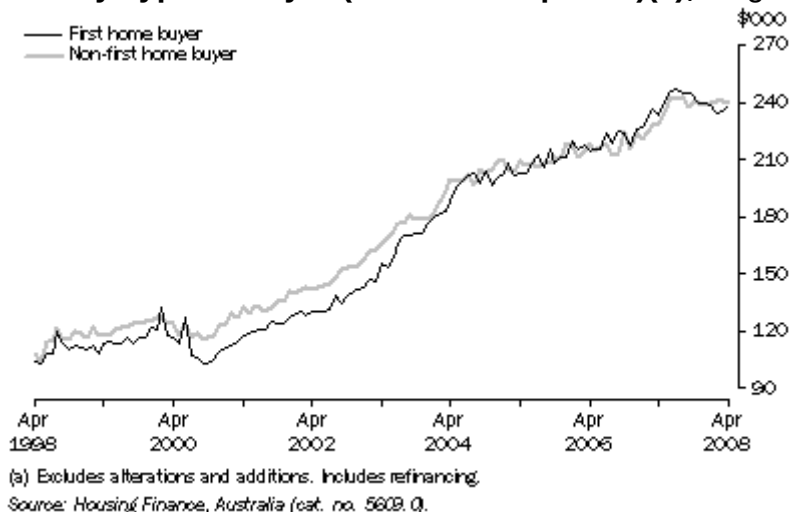
The trend estimate of the total value of housing finance commitments for owner occupation in Queensland has decreased by -16% to \$2,979 million in the 12 months to April 2008. In

terms of the trend estimate, the value of housing finance commitments showed a small decrease of -3.7% from March 2008.

Since April 1998, the average home loan commitment for owner occupied dwellings in Queensland has more than doubled from \$107,100 to \$239,600.

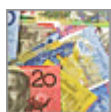
In April 2008, the average loan size for first home buyers (\$238,600) was lower than for non-first home buyers (\$239,800).

#### **Average Loan Size by Type of Buyer (Owner Occupation)(a), Original - Queensland**



Further information on this topic is available in [Housing Finance, Australia](#) (cat. no. 5609.0) or ring the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released monthly.

## **Incomes**



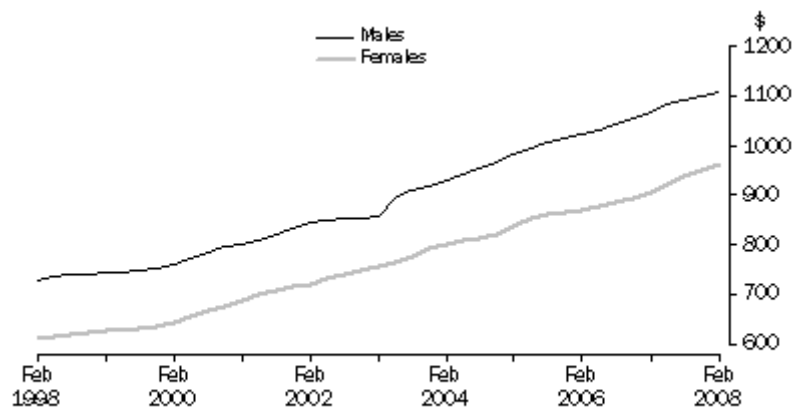
### **INCOMES**

#### **AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS**

The trend estimate of average weekly ordinary time earnings for full-time adult persons in Queensland increased by 4.6% to \$1,054.90 in the 12 months to February 2008. Nationally, the corresponding increase was marginally lower at 4.5% (up to \$1,123.30).

The trend estimate of full-time adult average weekly ordinary time earnings in Queensland rose by 3.5% for males and 6.4% for females over the 12 months to February 2008. The February 2008 female estimate of \$963.90 was 87% of the corresponding male estimate of \$1,107.10.

#### **Average Weekly Earnings, Full-Time Adult Ordinary Time, Trend - Queensland**



Source: Average Weekly Earnings, Australia (cat. no. 6302.0).

More information on average weekly earnings can be accessed at [Average Weekly Earnings, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6302.0) or ring the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

## Consumption and Investment



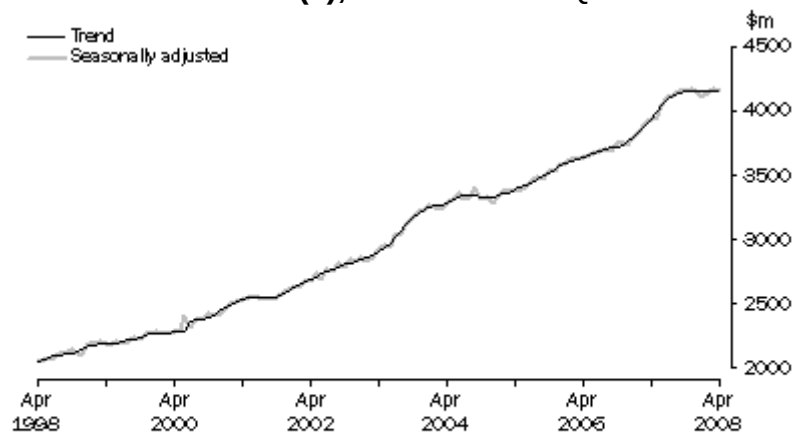
### CONSUMPTION AND INVESTMENT

Retail Trade  
New Motor Vehicle Sales  
Private New Capital Expenditure

#### RETAIL TRADE

The April 2008 trend estimate for Queensland's retail turnover was \$4,155.6 million, a 5.4% increase since April 2007. Food retailing accounted for 41% of total retail turnover in April 2008 and Hospitality and service industries turnover contributed 17%.

#### Retail Turnover(a), All Industries - Queensland

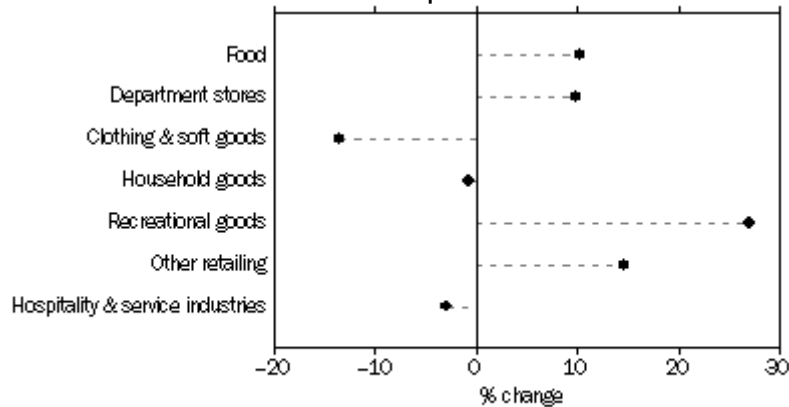


(a) There was a break in the trend series between June 2000 and July 2000 due to the introduction of The New Tax System.

Source: Retail Trade, Australia (cat. no. 8501.0).

In the twelve months to April 2008, the industry groups with the largest percentage increases in retail turnover (trend) were Recreational goods rising 27% to \$175.0 million and Other retailing which increased 15% to \$393.6 million. Decreases in total turnover were experienced in Clothing and soft good retailing (-14% to \$213.3 million), Hospitality and service industries (-2.9% to \$711.0 million) and in Household goods retailing (-0.7% to \$639.1 million).

#### Retail Turnover By Industry Group, Queensland, Trend - Percentage change over twelve months to April 2008



Source: Retail Trade, Australia (cat. no. 8501.0).

Further information about this topic can be accessed at [Retail Trade, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8501.0) or ring the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released monthly.

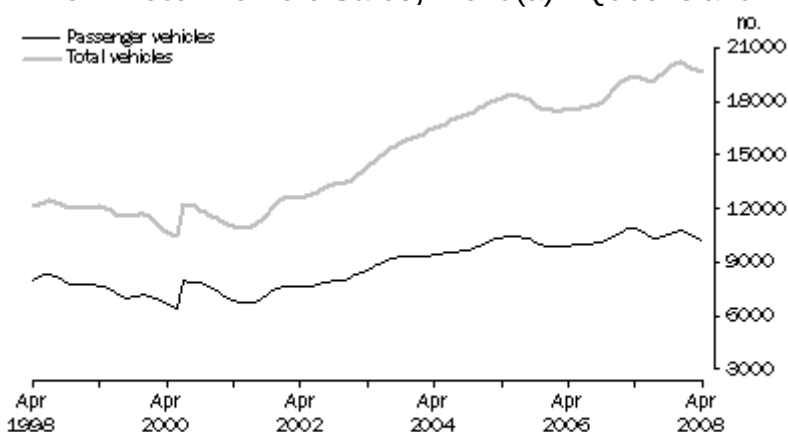
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#### NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES

In trend terms, 10,238 new passenger vehicles and 19,666 vehicles in total were sold in April 2008 in Queensland. Corresponding sales for Australia were 52,080 and 89,775.

In April 1998, new passenger vehicle sales accounted for 66% of total new vehicle sales in Queensland. By April 2008, the proportion of new passenger vehicle sales had fallen to 52%.

#### New Motor Vehicle Sales, Trend(a) - Queensland



(a) There was a break in the trend series between June 2000 and July 2000 due to the introduction of The New Tax System.

Source: Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Electronic Delivery (cat. no. 9341.0.55.001).

Further information about new motor vehicle sales can be accessed from [Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia](#) (cat no. 9314.0) or ring the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released monthly.

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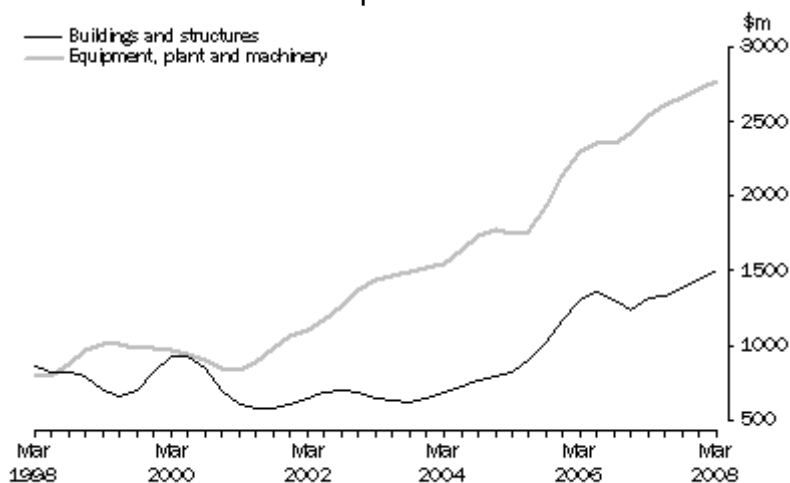
## PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Between the December 2007 and the March 2008 quarters, the Queensland chain volume trend estimate of private new capital expenditure increased marginally by 2.8% to \$4,273 million.

During the same period, expenditure on Equipment, plant and machinery increased by 2.1% to \$2,770 million while expenditure on Buildings and structures increased by 3.9% to \$1,503 million.

Comparing the March 2008 quarter with the March 2007 quarter, Queensland's total private new capital expenditure increased by 11%. Expenditure on Equipment, plant and machinery grew by 8.9% and expenditure on Buildings and structures increased by 14%.

### Private New Capital Expenditure, Trend, Chain Volume Measures - Queensland: by quarter



Source: Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia (cat. no. 5625.0).

Further information on this topic can be accessed at [Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia](#) (cat. no. 5625.0) or ring the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

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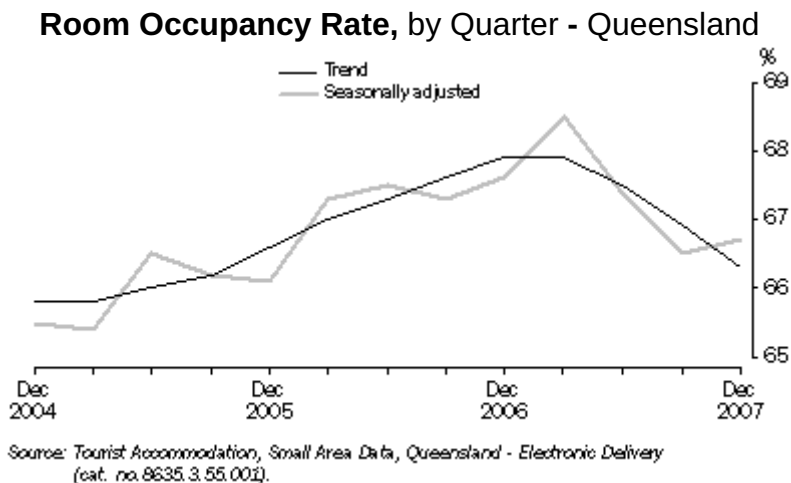
## Tourist Accommodation



### TOURIST ACCOMMODATION

## QUEENSLAND HOTELS, MOTELS AND SERVICED APARTMENTS WITH 15 OR MORE ROOMS

In the December 2007 quarter, there were 1,104 hotels, motels and serviced apartments with 15 or more rooms. These establishments had a guest room capacity of 59,592 rooms. The trend estimate of the room occupancy rate for Queensland (66.3%) was slightly higher than the national average (65.5%).



In the December 2007 quarter, Queensland hotels, motels and serviced apartments with 15 or more rooms catered for 2.8 million guest arrivals. Queensland establishments reported the longest average length of stay for guests (2.7 days) of all states and territories. The national average was 2.2 days.

The trend estimate of the total accommodation takings for hotels, motels and serviced apartments with 15 rooms or more continued to increase. In the December 2007 quarter, accommodation takings rose by 1.7% to \$517 million from the September 2007 quarter.

For more detailed information on Queensland's tourist accommodation, please refer to [Tourist Accommodation, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8635.0) and [Tourist Accommodation, Small Area Data, Queensland, Electronic Delivery](#) (cat. no. 8635.3.55.001) or ring the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication and data cube are released quarterly.

## Interstate Trade



### INTERSTATE TRADE

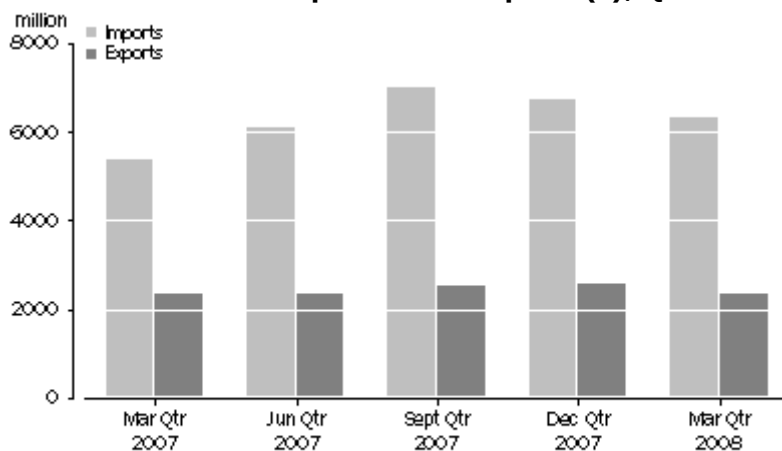
#### QUEENSLAND'S INTERSTATE TRADE

The value of interstate imports for Queensland in the March 2008 quarter was \$6,339.6 million, a -5.8% decrease on the previous quarter and 17% higher than the same quarter in 2007.

The value in the March 2008 quarter of interstate exports was \$2,356.4 million, a decrease of - 8.6% on the previous quarter and 0.7% higher than the same quarter 12 months earlier.

The value of imports continues to be between two and three times the value of exports.

#### Value of Interstate Imports and Exports(a), Queensland



(a) Some minor revisions have been made to the December 2006 quarter.  
Source: Queensland Treasury, Office of Economic and Statistical Research.

**NOTE:** In compiling the estimates of Interstate Trade for the Office of Economic and Statistical Research, the ABS uses a partial coverage census based on businesses with more than \$400,000 of interstate trade. This collection is now under review due to frame and coverage issues. New businesses are not well represented, so the estimates are likely to be understated. The estimates are prepared for use in the compilation of Treasury's State Accounts and users should exercise strong caution in their independent use.

For further information on this topic, please contact Queensland Treasury, Office of Economic and Statistical Research. Interstate trade data are released quarterly.

## Articles

### ARTICLES

#### ARTICLES ON STATISTICAL ISSUES WITH A QUEENSLAND THEME

##### Labour Force Characteristics of Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People, 2007

This article provides estimates of the labour force characteristics of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders using data from the Labour Force Survey. The article also draws attention to statistical and data quality issues that should be considered when using the estimates.

##### Household Preparedness for Emergencies, Queensland, October 2007

This article summarises results for Queensland from the 'Household Preparedness for Emergencies' survey, conducted during October 2007 throughout New South Wales,

Victoria, Queensland and the Australian Capital Territory. It presents information on preparedness for emergencies such as fire, floods or storms and also includes information about the presence of safety features such as smoke detectors, fire extinguishers and fire blankets, and other indicators of preparedness, as well as data on household experience of emergencies.

### [Index of Previous Articles](#)

This provides a list of articles as that have been released in previous issues of Qld Stats with links to those articles.

## Index or Previous Articles

Issue	Article Title
<b>2008</b>	
May	Involvement in Organised Sport and Physical Activity, Queensland, April 2007
April	General Social Survey, 2006: Financial Stressors, Queensland
<b>2007</b>	
December	General Social Survey, 2006: Personal Stressors, Queensland
November	Census Data - Second Release
	Young People in the Labour Market, Queensland, 2007
September	General Social Survey, 2006: Characteristics of Family and Community Support & Crime and Safety
July	Forms of Employment, Queensland, November 2006
	Working Time Arrangements, Queensland, November 2006
June	Preferred Working Hours of Wage and Salary Earners, Queensland, October 2006
May	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey: Queensland, 2004-05
	Energy Use and Conservation, March 2005

## About this Release

Qld Stats is an electronic magazine containing an overview of Queensland's key economic and social indicators presented in graphs, tables and analytical summaries with links to more detailed products. Qld Stats also contains news of seminars, releases and other matters of statistical interest for Queensland.

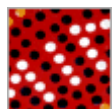
Qld Stats replaces Queensland Key Statistics (cat. no. 1388.3) and Statistical Update, Queensland (cat. no. 1316.3). These two products have been discontinued.

Qld Stats is issued monthly, after the release of Labour Force data, with tables and graphs updated to the latest available data. Analytical summaries are included when available.

Readers can get further information, including Explanatory Notes, on each of the topics by

using the links to source materials contained on each page.

# Labour Force Characteristics of Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People, 2007 (Feature Article)



## LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS OF QUEENSLAND ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE, 2007

Introduction  
Participation  
Employment  
Unemployment  
Further Information  
End Note

### INTRODUCTION

This article presents information about the labour force characteristics of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders aged 15 years and over. The information is based on data collected in the national monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS) in 2007. Data published previously for 2002 to 2006 are also included in this article for comparison purposes.

The monthly LFS is the main source of information about the labour force status of Australia's civilian population. From April 2001, the monthly LFS has included a question on Indigenous status. The labour force estimates for Indigenous Australians in this article were produced by combining the LFS samples for each of the 12 months of a calendar year to produce annual estimates.

To help in the interpretation of these estimates, this article also draws attention to a number of statistical issues that need to be considered when using LFS estimates to describe Indigenous labour force characteristics. These have an impact on the relevance, quality and reliability of Indigenous estimates from the LFS.<sup>1</sup>

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### PARTICIPATION

In 2007 in Queensland, an estimated 57,300 Indigenous people were in the labour force (i.e. either employed or unemployed). This represents a labour force participation rate for Queensland Indigenous people aged 15 years and over of 64.1% which was higher than the national Indigenous rate of 56.3%.

Between 2002 and 2004, the Queensland Indigenous population not in the labour force increased from 28,600 to 31,700. After falling slightly in 2005 and 2006, the number not in the labour force rose to 32,100 in 2007.

### INDIGENOUS PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER, QUEENSLAND , LABOUR FORCE STATUS - 2002 to 2007

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	Total employed '000	Total unemp- loyed '000	Labour force '000	Not in labour force '000	Civilian population aged 15 years and over '000	Unemp- loyment rate %	Partici- pation rate %	Employment to population ratio %	Civilian population living in remote areas %
2002	39.0	10.1	49.1	28.6	77.7	20.5	63.2	50.2	25.0
2003	40.1	9.1	49.2	30.5	79.7	18.5	61.7	50.3	25.0
2004	42.9	7.4	50.3	31.7	82.0	14.7	61.3	52.3	25.0
2005	45.1	7.7	52.9	31.5	84.4	14.6	62.7	53.5	25.0
2006	50.0	7.4	57.4	29.5	86.8	12.8	66.1	57.6	25.1
2007	51.6	5.6	57.3	32.1	89.4	9.8	64.1	57.8	25.1

Source: Labour Force Characteristics of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians (cat. no. 6287.0).

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## EMPLOYMENT

In 2007, there were an estimated 51,600 Queensland indigenous people aged 15 years and over in employment, a 32% increase over the number of Indigenous employed in 2002. This equates to an average annual increase in Indigenous employment of 5.8%.

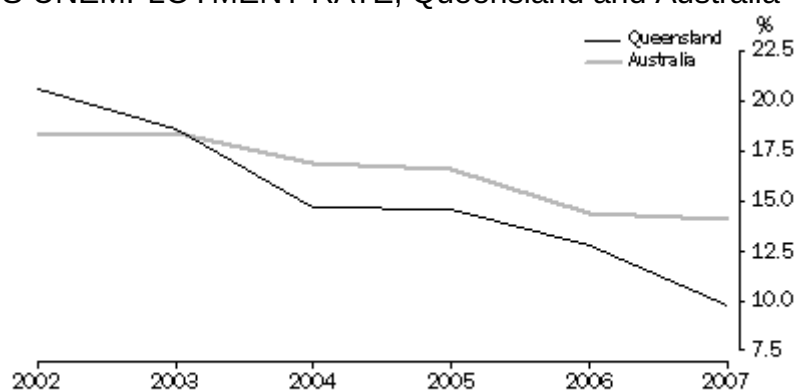
The Queensland Indigenous employment to population ratio in 2007 was 57.8% compared to 48.4% for Australia.

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## UNEMPLOYMENT

The Queensland Indigenous unemployment rate in 2007 was 9.8% which is less than half the rate in 2002 (20.5%). Queensland had the third lowest Indigenous unemployment rate of all states and territories and has been lower than the national average since 2004.

INDIGENOUS UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, Queensland and Australia–2002 to 2007



Source: Labour Force Characteristics of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians (cat. no. 6287.0)

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## FURTHER INFORMATION

More information on this topic can be found in Labour Force Characteristics of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians (cat. no. 6287.0).

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## END NOTE

1. Some of these statistical issues arise because the LFS is designed primarily to provide reliable estimates of key labour force aggregates for the whole of Australia and, secondarily, for each state and territory, rather than estimates for small populations or small geographic areas. The small size of the Indigenous population, its wide dispersion, and the relatively high proportion who live in remote areas present particular difficulties in producing reliable labour force estimates for the Indigenous population. There are also some practical difficulties with applying the standard LFS concepts and definitions and using the standard LFS survey questions in Indigenous communities, particularly in remote regions. In addition, the small sample of Indigenous people identified in the LFS, even when pooled across the year, has implications for the reliability of the survey estimates.

Information about the labour force characteristics of the Indigenous population has been collected in the LFS using international standards for defining and measuring employment and unemployment. The distinction between paid and unpaid work is fundamental to these definitions. As a result, the definitions may not always give adequate recognition to the 'unpaid' activities which some people undertake. However, the use of standard definitions across all population groups is seen as important for ensuring objectivity and uniformity in measuring Australia's labour force.

In the LFS, employment is defined as working for at least one hour, either for pay or profit, or as unpaid work in a family business; or being absent from work but remaining formally attached to a job. Persons who participate in labour market programs are counted as employed, unemployed or not in the labour force according to how they respond to questions in the LFS about their actual activity in the week before interview.

The Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) scheme is a program provided by the Federal Government for (primarily) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in remote, rural and urban areas. It enables an Indigenous community or organisation to pool the unemployment benefit entitlements of individuals into direct wages for those people who choose to participate in local employment in various community development or organisation programs as an alternative to receiving individual income support payments. The relationship between CDEP organisations and the individual participants who are undertaking paid work is treated by ABS as an employer/employee relationship. The individual participants are considered to be in paid employment, even though they are paid for their work from funds originating as unemployment benefits.

The definition of unemployment is based around the concepts of actively looking for work and being available to start work. Where job opportunities are scarce or may not exist, such as in some remote parts of Australia, there may be little incentive to actively look for work. As a result, there may be relatively little unemployment measured in such regions, with the population who are not employed falling mainly into the 'not in the labour force' category.

Due to these statistical issues caution should be used when comparing estimates across states and territories and over time within states and territories.

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## **Household preparedness for emergencies, Queensland– October 2007 (Feature Article)**



## **HOUSEHOLD PREPAREDNESS FOR EMERGENCIES, QUEENSLAND– OCTOBER 2007**

Introduction

Presence of safety precautions

Access to emergency phone numbers

Emergency plans

Recent emergencies

Further information

### **INTRODUCTION**

This article presents Queensland results from the Household Preparedness for Emergencies survey which was conducted in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and the Australian Capital Territory during October 2007. The survey examined the steps households had taken in preparing for emergencies. These steps included safety precautions such as installing smoke alarms, ensuring emergency phone numbers were accessible, and having an emergency plan. Where households had experienced a recent emergency (in the last 2 years) the survey investigated how they responded during the emergency and if any changes were made to ensure better preparedness in the future.

For more detailed definitions of terms and concepts used in this article please refer to the Glossary in Household Preparedness for Emergencies: NSW, Vic, Qld and ACT, Oct 2007 (cat. no. 4818.0.55.001).

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### **PRESENCE OF SAFETY PRECAUTIONS**

In October 2007, the most common safety precaution that Queensland households had taken was to have smoke alarms or detectors installed in their homes. Of the 1.6 million households in Queensland, 94% had a smoke alarm installed. State legislation and building codes regarding smoke alarms are probably the main influences on the high proportion of households with smoke alarms and detectors. In Queensland it is (and was at the time of the survey) mandatory for all homes, new and old to have smoke alarms installed. Of all households with smoke alarms or detectors, 84% had manually tested these devices in the last 12 months.

Electrical safety switches or circuit breakers were the second most common safety precaution. These were present in 90% of homes in Queensland. As with smoke alarms, the proportion of dwellings with safety switches was affected by legislation and building codes. In Queensland all homes built since 1992 must have safety switches installed, whilst all properties which have changed ownership or are leased to tenants require safety switches to be installed within 3 months and 6 months respectively.

Aside from these legislated safety precautions, 63% of the households had a portable first aid kit and around one-third (35%) had a household member with a current first aid qualification.

The two least implemented precautions were fire blankets (19%) and a written or rehearsed

emergency plan (20%). An emergency plan is a scheme of assigned responsibilities, actions and procedures required in the event of an emergency.

There was no significant difference between the Balance of State and Brisbane in most implemented non-legislated safety precautions. The exception was for the precaution of written or rehearsed emergency plans, where 22% of the Balance of State households had such an emergency plan compared with 17% of Brisbane households.

### **PRESENCE OF SELECTED SAFETY PRECAUTIONS, By area of usual residence, Queensland–October 2007**

	Brisbane		Balance of State		Queensland	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Smoke alarms/detectors	682.7	93.6	804.4	93.9	1,487.0	93.8
Tested smoke alarms/detectors(a)	566.7	77.7	682.7	79.7	1,249.5	78.8
Fire blankets	126.4	17.3	167.7	19.6	294.0	18.5
Fire extinguishers	229.7	31.5	282.4	33.0	512.1	32.3
Electrical safety switches or circuit breakers	642.1	88.0	777.5	90.8	1,419.6	89.5
Written or rehearsed emergency plan(b)	122.4	16.8	190.3	22.2	312.7	19.7
Portable first aid kit	448.8	61.5	547.9	64.0	996.7	62.8
First aid qualification(c)	256.8	35.2	297.6	34.8	554.4	35.0
<b>Total households(d)</b>	<b>729.6</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>856.3</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,585.9</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Manually tested within the last 12 months.

(b) Rehearsed within the last 12 months. Emergency plan is for non-medical emergencies only.

(c) First aid qualification either obtained or renewed by a household member during the last 3 years. Also included if a household member is a doctor or nurse.

(d) Components do not add to total as more than one type of safety precaution could be present.

Source: Household Preparedness for Emergencies: NSW, Vic, Qld and ACT, Oct 2007 (cat. no. 4818.0.55.001).

Couple with children households were more likely than other household types to have a member with a current first aid qualification (53%) and a portable first aid kit (74%). In contrast, lone person households were least likely to have a current first aid qualification (16%) and a portable first aid kit (48%).

Home ownership increased the likelihood of having the safety precautions to put out house fires, compared to homes that were rented. In particular, households who owned or were paying off their home were approximately twice as likely as households who rented, to have fire blankets (22% compared with 10%) and fire extinguishers (37% compared with 20%).

Over two thirds (68%) of households who owned or were paying off their home possessed a portable first aid kit in comparison with just over half (51%) of households who rented.

Households who owned or were paying off their home (93%) were also more likely to have an electrical safety switch or circuit breaker installed than households who rented (81%).

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### **ACCESS TO EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS**

Household members' access to the appropriate emergency phone numbers can be a critical factor affecting the ability of emergency services to respond to emergencies. Over one third (39%) of all Queensland households did not keep emergency phone numbers in a location

for ease of use. An easily accessible location includes only emergency phone numbers that are displayed/stored separately and are easily accessible in an emergency. This excludes looking up emergency numbers in the White or Yellow pages phone books.

The most common locations for emergency phone numbers was either on the fridge (24%) or by the phone (23%), followed by programmed into the phone (7.9%).

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## **EMERGENCY PLANS**

An indicator of preparedness for emergencies is whether households have an emergency plan.

A perceived risk of flooding or bushfire did not significantly increase the likelihood of households having an emergency plan. Under half (41%) of the 270,400 households with a perceived risk of bushfire had a plan compared with 37% of households without a perceived risk of bushfire. Of the 219,500 Queensland households with a perceived risk of flooding, 42% had an emergency plan compared with 37% of households without a perceived risk of flooding.

Approximately one-fifth (18%) of all households had at least one household member who would have difficulties evacuating without help in an emergency. This, however, did not increase the likelihood of those households having an emergency plan. In Queensland, 37% of households with a member who would have difficulties evacuating had an emergency plan compared with 38% of households without a member who would need help.

Households with one or more members who volunteered in the emergency services were more likely to have an emergency plan (54%) than households with no volunteer members (37%). This was most evident in the Balance of Queensland where 57% of households with at least one member who volunteered in the emergency services had an emergency plan, compared to 39% of households who did not have a volunteer.

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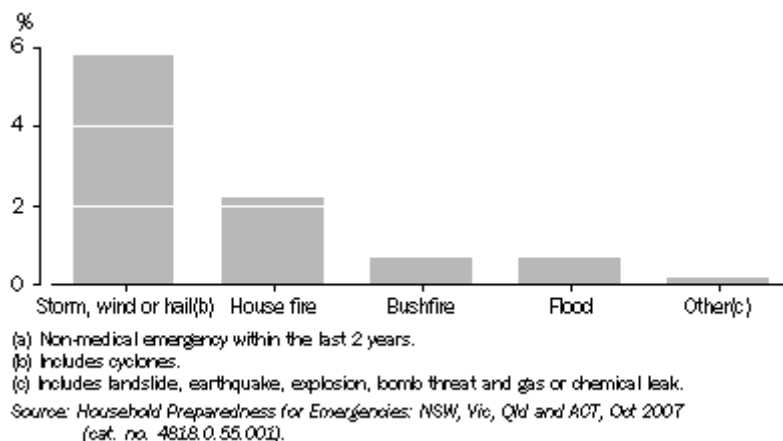
## **RECENT EMERGENCIES**

An emergency is an actual or imminent occurrence which: endangers, or threatens to endanger, the safety or health of persons or animals; and/or destroys or damages, or threatens to destroy or damage property; and/or requires a significant and coordinated response. The survey excluded emergencies of a purely medical nature and crimes which do not threaten the physical dwelling or surroundings.

In the two years prior to October 2007, 9.7% of Queensland households (or 153,800 households) had experienced an emergency.

The most common type of emergency experienced in Queensland was 'storm, cyclone, wind or hail', experienced by 5.8% of households (or 92,700 households), followed by house fire (2.2% or 34,900 households) and flood and bushfires (0.7% or 11,800 and 10,900 households respectively).

### **MOST RECENT EMERGENCY(a), Queensland–October 2007**



Of the households who reported experiencing a recent emergency, 15% contacted emergency services.

Households who had experienced bushfires (75%) were most likely to contact emergency services followed by households experiencing 'Other emergencies' (46%). Around 10% of households experiencing house fires, 'storm, cyclone, wind or hail' and floods contacted emergency services.

The most commonly contacted emergency services were the Fire Service (8.0%) and the State Emergency Service (6.6%).

Around half (53%) of households who had experienced emergencies implemented changes for better preparedness. Changes included installing and regularly testing smoke alarms, implementing an emergency plan and putting emergency phone numbers in an easily accessible place.

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## FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information on this topic can be found in Household Preparedness for Emergencies: NSW, Vic, Qld and ACT, Oct 2007 (cat. no. 4818.0.55.001).

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